"As the Department of Surgery enters its 180th year, we are proud to continue to promote innovation and excellence in surgical clinical care, research, and education. Our faculty, residents, and staff are enthusiastically committed to the mission and vision of the School of Medicine and Tulane University. Our over-riding focus is to promote surgical services as an integral component of providing care to the community and the resources necessary to help ensure community health. We are proud that our reputation and contributions are well-known in the region, nationally and around the world."

Douglas Slakey, MD
Chair

The Department of Surgery at Tulane University School of Medicine is one of the oldest academic surgical departments in the United States. The historic accomplishments of our faculty and residents are well-known throughout the world. Combining tradition with cutting-edge technology, and the enthusiastic spirit of advancing surgical sciences, the Department is a respected choice for patients seeing the best in comprehensive healthcare, and for fellows, students, and residents determined to learn and contribute to the future of surgery. We are proud of the people who make up our Department of Surgery team, from staff to residents, fellows, and faculty.

Highlights for the 2013-2014 academic year

- Research

The Department of Surgery was well represented at the Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Surgery meeting in January 2014. Participants included residents, students, and faculty. The department had 12 presentations, 3 poster presentations, the best cancer presentation, the best oral presentation, and the best poster. Ryan Couvillion, MD and Matthew Zelhart, MD won Louisiana Surgery Jeopardy and will represent Louisiana at the American College of Surgeons annual meeting in San Francisco competing with residents from around the country October 26-30, 2014.

Allison D. Smith, PhD, successfully defended her dissertation “Reprogrammed Mesenchymal Stem Cells to Treat Biofilm-Infected Wounds: A Novel Approach to Chronic Wound Care.” She will begin her surgery residency at Tulane in July 2014.

Drs. James Korndorffer and Eric Simms developed the Hydra Minimally Invasive Surgical System - patent pending.

- Education
  Dr. William Cancer was the 2013 Theodore Drapanas Visiting Professor and he presented “Million Mile Reflections on a Surgical Career”.

On June 21, 2014, the Department of Surgery held their resident graduation. The graduating residents and their plans moving forward are:

- Mary "Misty" Ghere, MD: Hand Surgery, Plastic Surgery, University of Mississippi, Jackson, Mississippi
- John Guste, MD: LSU Plastics Surgery and Reconstruction Fellowship, New Orleans, Louisiana
- Michael Thomas, MD: Colon & Rectal Surgery Fellowship, Ochsner Clinic, New Orleans, Louisiana
- Max Trahan, MD: General Surgery, Lafayette General Medical Center and The New Acadia General Hospital, Crowley, Louisiana

In September 2013, the Tulane Trauma Educational Institute began Navy Special Operations Warfare Training and to-date have trained 58 people.

Dr. Suzanne Klimberg was the 2013 Alton Ochsner Visiting Professor and she presented “Nipple Sparing Mastectomy – Safety, Technique, and Indications.”

Highlights continued on back of page...
On November 5, 2013, the first “McSwain EMS Trauma Conference” was held in New Orleans. There were 250 people in attendance. It was sponsored by the University Hospital Trauma Center and the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians. The 2014 conference will be held on November 6, 2014.

The 6th Annual Symposium on Thyroid and Parathyroid Diseases was held on February 1-2, 2014. There were 93 people in attendance.

Dr. Thomas Yeh presented “Checklists In Congenital Surgical Practice” at the Congenital Heart Disease Symposium in Toronto on April 26-20, 2014.

Dr. Slakey was invited to be the Key Note Speaker at the VI Latin American Congress on Surgical Infection held in Play Herradura, Costa Rica, on May 16, 2014.

We have two visiting endocrine surgery fellows from Saudi Arabia: Drs. Mohammed Alshehri and Nuha Alsaleh.

We have international residents, observers, research scholars, and scientists from many countries, including Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Dubai, El Salvador, France, Germany, India, Jordan, Mexico, and Pakistan.

The Department of Surgery had 925 applicants for the 2013-2014 academic year. This equals one-third of all general surgery resident applicants.

Class mean for the shelf exam for academic year 2013-2014 increased to 76.0 — well above the national average of 70.

• Community Service
  Douglas Slakey, MD, received a scholarship from the Vietnam Education Foundation to develop and provide a course designed to improve the care and outcomes of patients with kidney disease in Vietnam.

The Tulane Trauma Educational Institute recently completed an ATLS/PHTLS and Tactical Combat Casualty Care Training for 14 physicians from the Ukraine. The physicians could not speak English except for one who served as their translator.

Anil Paramesh, MD, is the medical advisor elect for the American Association of Organ Procurement Organizations. Dr. was also elected to Alpha Omega Alpha.

Norman McSwain, MD, received the 2014 Louisiana State Medical Society’s “Physician Award for Community Service” and the 2014 Louisiana Emergency Response Network Award for contributing to the development and growth of Louisiana’s trauma system. Dr. McSwain was also awarded the 2013 Community Service Award by the Orleans Parish Medical Society for his exemplary leadership and selfless acts of time and dedication.

The Department of Surgery Website Committee updated the Hernia Center website for patients and simultaneously, the department began web-based advertising. The hernia website address is http://tulane.edu/som/departments/surgery/hernia/.

Bernard Jaffe, MD, Emeritus Professor of Surgery, continues to lead trips to teach first responder trauma care in developing countries. During the past twelve months Dr. Jaffe has traveled to the following countries: Myanmar, Yangon, and Bangladesh. The following surgery residents joined him on his trips: Michael Thomas, Matthew Zelhart, Eric Simms, Ivane Chua, Christopher Martin, Peter Lundberg, Adam Hauch, David Pointer, and Ryan Couvillion.

• Clinical
  Rebecca Schroll, MD, Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery, joined the Department of Surgery faculty.

The Colon Rectal Group of Drs. Jeff Griffin, Sean Mayfield, and Jennifer Silinsky expand their practice to the downtown Tulane Hospital and Clinic.

Current Full Time Faculty
16

Current Number of Residents
26* plus 2 in research
*This number excludes the ENT and Orthopedic residents rotating through this year

Unique Publications
61 since January 2013

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